Crisis in lea export trade

1056. SHEI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister cf COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the crisis in tea export trade;

(b)' if so, whether any corrective measures have been taken to boost the demand of Indian tea in foreign market;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH); (a) to (d) No, Sir. Although surplus world supplies have lowered international prices by about 50 per cent. India has been able to maintain unit value realization on exports at near last years high levels- Government piovides incentives in the form of subsidies for replanting tea, assistance for brand promotion and warehousing abroad as well as cash compensatory support on value-added teas. Tea Board al?p undertakes promotional campaigns through its offices abroad.

Development of mineral resources of potential mines in Orissa

1057. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM

SHRI K. MOHANAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate of Mining has demanded infrastructure facilities including rail, road, communications, power and port facilities for expeditious development of mineral resources of 1325 RS—5 potential mine area in Orissa as identified by the Geological Survey of India; and

(b) if so, what action Central Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) No specific proposal from the Directorate of Mining, Orissa for infrastructure facilities, has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

100 per cent export-oriented units

1058. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD;
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some 100 per cent export-oriented units have stopped production and some are thinking alike;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) how many such units were sanctioned in different States so far and how many have started produe-tion; and

(d) what steps have been taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) As on the 15th September, 1985, 458 units, approved under the Scheme of 100 per cent export-oriented units, held valid approval letters. 80 such units were reported to be in production and export at the end of June, 1985. Certain approved units have requested for permission to get debonded from the Scheme on

grounds like the uncompetitiveness of products in international market, breakdown of collaboration arrangements, etc. Requests for debonding are considerred strictly on merit keeing *inter alia* in view the facilities already utilised by the units.

Swaraj Paul's offer to set up a steel plant at Goa

1059. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a act that Shri Swaraj Paul has offered to set up a steel plant at Goa;

(b) if so, whether clearance has been given by Government to set up the plant; and

(c) what are the details of the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (c) Yes, Sir. Shri Swaraj Paul has proposed to set up a one million tonne capacity steel plant at Goa. based on Direct Reduction of Iron together with electrical steel melting,

(b) The proposal is under examination.

.. **Falling cotton prices**

1060. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of cotton are falling in view of good crop;

(b) what is the production of cotton expected this year;

(c) what was the quantum of cotton exported during the last year; and

(d) whether Government propose to export the cotton this year also; if so, how much?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) The prices of cotton are at present ruling at a level lower than the abonormally high level of prices which prevailed in the corresponding period of the last season. This cari be attributed to ihe prospects of a satisfactory cotton crop during the current cotton season.

(b) The crop is estimated to be around 95.60 lakh bales.

(c) A quantity of 2.95 lakh bales was released by Government for export during the last cotton season and a quantity of about 1.86 lakh bales was registered with the Textile, Commissioner for export upto August 1985.

(d) During the current cotton season, Government have so far released for export 2.00 lakh bales of long and extra-long staple cotton, 27,000 bales of Bengal Deshi cotton and 25,000 bales of Yellow Pickings. Further export quota will be released if considered necessary.

सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजनावधि के लिये निर्धारित इस्पात उत्पादन का लक्ष्य

1061. **श्री रामचन्द्र विकल** : क्या **इस्पात** और **खान** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना अवधि के दौरान इस्पात उत्पादन का क्या लक्ष्य रखा गया है और छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना अवधि में अन्त तक इस्पात उत्पादन का कितना लक्ष्य प्राप्त हो जाने की संभावना है; और